

[Ophelia made the statement]

Project-#1655

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Approx. 154 Words

(Verbatim Conversation)

Ophelia made the statement that she had been to Heaven and had seen for herself what it was like. She was asked to describe her visit.

"I done been dere. Hebben is white as snow. God an' de Holy Ghost dey is one, set at a big table wid de book stretch out befo' em. He two eye jes lak two big sun shining an' He hair lak lamb's wool. I walk in dere an' look obber ober He shoulder. he had a long gold pen an' writ down de name ob de people down on de ert (earth) yet, an' when 'e call de roll up dere in 'e own time he know dem."

"But Ophelia how can you say that you were in Heaven?"

"When I been converted I went to Hebben in de sperit an' see wid de eye of fait (faith)!"

"How did you feel while you were there?"

"Oh! I 'joicing! I 'joicing! nebber de lak befo', an' angel tek me an' show me de stars, how dey hang up dere by a silver cord, an' de moon jes a ball ob blood, but I aint know how it hold up, an' de sun on de rim ob all dese goin' round an' round, an' Christ settin' in a rocking chair obber ober de sun. Gabriel an' Michael was wid 'em, one on dis side an' one

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on de odder holding de laws. I see ebery t'ing jes lak I say. Sweet Jesus , I hope I reach dat place I see.”

Source: Ophelia Jemison, Negro, Addison Ct, Charleston, S. C.